

MARVEL

EATON
KARAMI
DALHOUSE

BLACK PANTHER

**BLOOD
HUNT**

3

OF THREE



STAN
O'Z
0-24

RATED T+

T'CHALLA USED TO BE THE KING OF WAKANDA UNTIL THE NATION BECAME A DEMOCRACY AND EXILED THEIR FORMER RULER. BUT AS THE BLACK PANTHER, EMPOWERED BY THE HEART-SHAPED HERB AND THE CHAMPION OF THE GODDESS BAST, HE REMAINS WAKANDA'S PROTECTOR...

BLACK PANTHER

BLOOD HUNT

PREVIOUSLY

The **DARKFORCE DIMENSION** has erupted and created an eternal night, allowing vampires everywhere to launch a brutal attack against humanity! **BLADE** leads the vampires—and has turned **BLACK PANTHER** into a vampire as well, sending him to Wakanda in search of a temple that is key to his plans! Unbeknownst to T'Challa, Blade is possessed by **VARNAE**, the first vampire. The panther goddess **BAST** remembers how the gods encountered Varnae eons ago and failed to stop him. To avoid repeating their mistakes, Bast has enlisted the aid of the river goddess **ANUKET**, who brought T'Challa to the temple gates—where he was confronted by angry **ATLANTEANS**...

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Note: This issue takes place before the events of **BLOOD HUNT #3**.

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BLACK PANTHER CREATED BY STAN LEE & JACK KIRBY

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INDIAN OCEAN,
ATLANTEAN TEMPLE RUINS.
SUNDEATH: 31:09:15.

YOU SHOULD
NOT HAVE
COME HERE,
WAKANDAN!

FWAP

I AM NOT
HERE AS AN ACT
OF AGGRESSION,
ATLANTEAN.





YOU JEST!
YOUR VERY
PRESENCE IN THESE
WATERS IS AN
INSULT!

I'VE ONLY
COME TO RECLAIM
THAT WHICH ONCE SAT
UPON WAKANDAN SOIL.
A TEMPLE OF NO USE
TO YOUR
PEOPLE.

ANCIENT
RUINS.



RUINS OR NOT,
DO YOU EXPECT
ME TO BELIEVE YOUR
PEOPLE ONCE
HEWN **ATLANTEAN**
STONE?

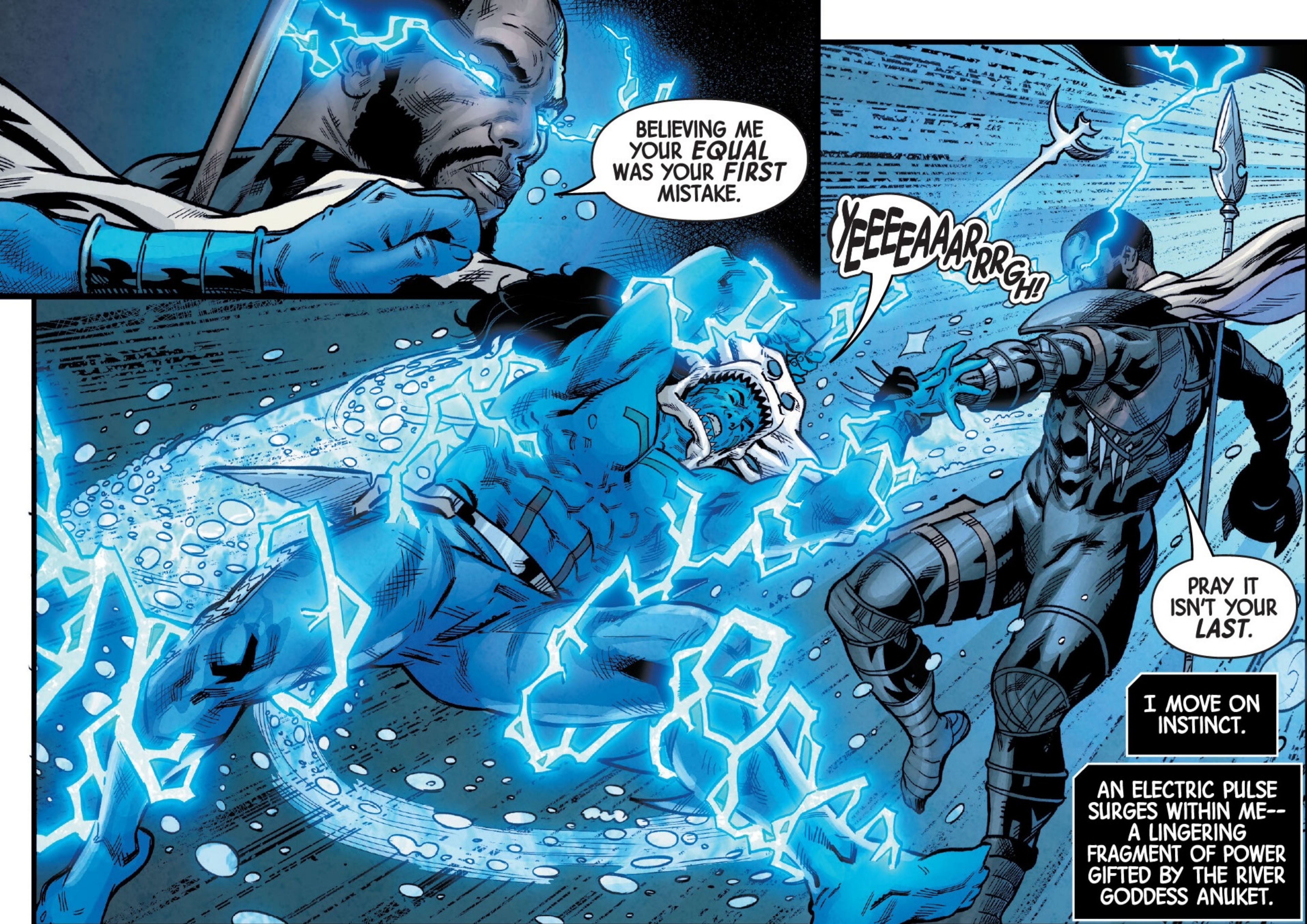
AS MUCH AS
I BELIEVE YOUR
PEOPLE CRAFTED THE
VIBRANIUM GATEWAY
BEFORE IT.

HRM. THEN
WE ARE AT AN
IMPASSE, LAND-DWELLER.
FOR WHAT THE GODS
HAVE RETURNED TO THESE
WATERS WILL NEVER BE
RELINQUISHED.



THIS IS A DISCUSSION BEST HAD
WITH YOUR **KING**, YES? WHY
NOT **SUMMON** HIM?

I DO NOT
NEED TO SEEK
NAMOR'S COUNSEL
BECAUSE **YOU** HOLD
NO POWER HERE! I
SPEAK TO YOU AS
AN **EQUAL**!



MSITU WA DHABIHU,
WAKANDAN NATURE
PRESERVE.

SUNDEATH: 31:19:04.

IT IS
DONE.

WHAT WAS
DONE? HAS VARNAE'S
TEMPLE BEEN
DESTROYED?

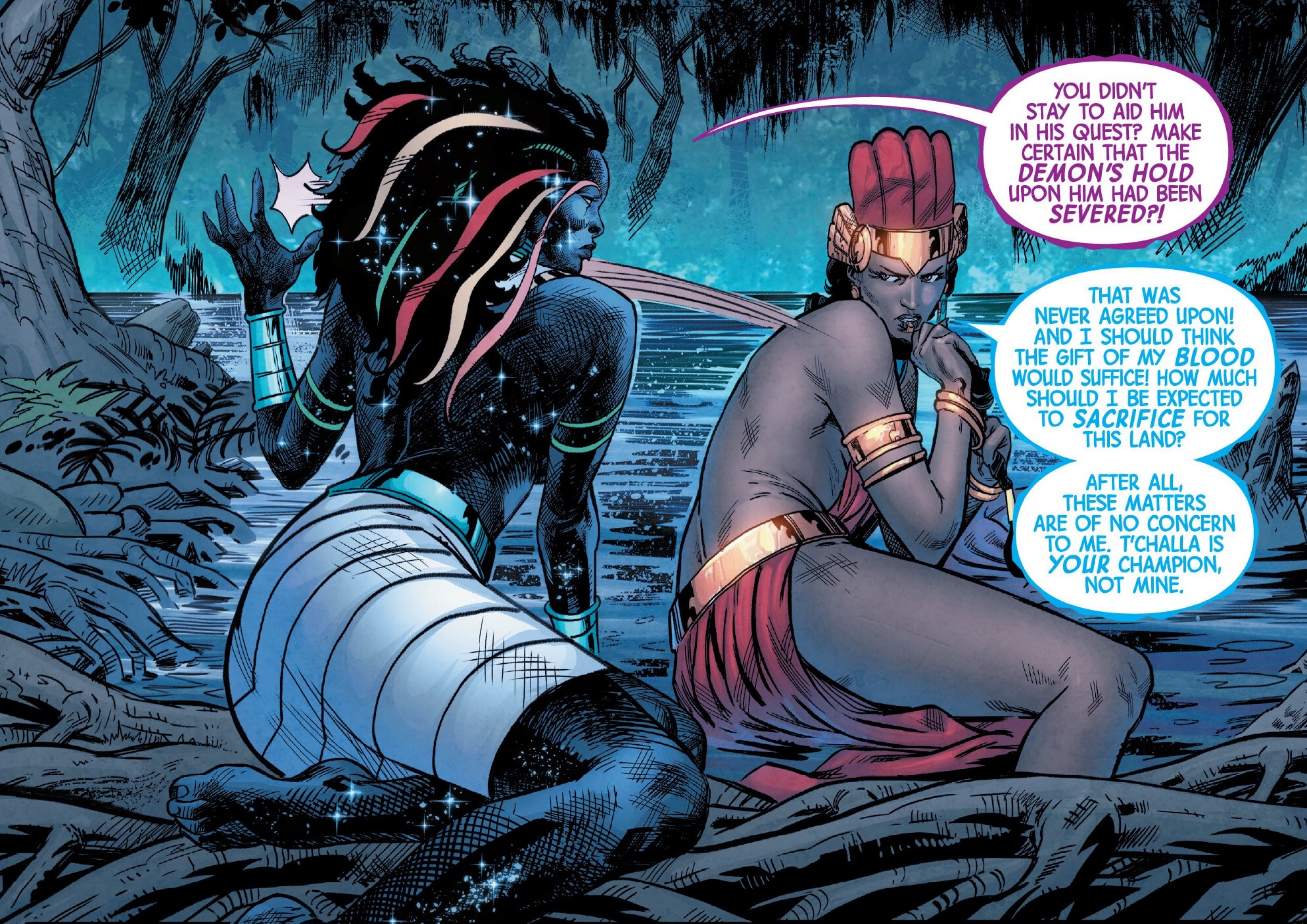
I DO
NOT KNOW,
BAST!

TCH! YOU ARE
INSUFFERABLE.

CAREFUL,
ANUKET. MY PATIENCE
IS AS THIN AS YOU
ARE SHALLOW.

NOW,
WHERE IS
T'CHALLA?!

AT THE
ATLANTEAN RUINS!
EXACTLY WHERE I
PROMISED TO GUIDE HIM!



YOU DIDN'T
STAY TO AID HIM
IN HIS QUEST? MAKE
CERTAIN THAT THE
DEMON'S HOLD
UPON HIM HAD BEEN
SEVERED?!

THAT WAS
NEVER AGREED UPON!
AND I SHOULD THINK
THE GIFT OF MY **BLOOD**
WOULD SUFFICE! HOW MUCH
SHOULD I BE EXPECTED
TO **SACRIFICE** FOR
THIS LAND?

AFTER ALL,
THESE MATTERS
ARE OF NO CONCERN
TO ME. T'CHALLA IS
YOUR CHAMPION,
NOT MINE.



THOUGH PERHAPS
IF HE RETURNS, I CAN
CONVINCE HIM TO SEEK
OUT **UNCHARTED**
WATERS.

HMMPH. YOUR
DOMINION SUITS
YOU, ANUKET.

THE BOWEL OF
THE **NILE** IS WHERE
YOU BELONG--FOR YOU
ARE AS SLIPPERY AS A
RIVER SNAKE!



AGREED.

AND AS
WET.

HA! YOU BELIEVED GODHOOD TO BE WITHIN YOUR GRASP?

YOU ARE AS
STUPID AS YOU
ARE ARROGANT,
LITTLE DEMON!

**YOU ARE
A DESECRATION!
LIVING ROT!**

A HEART THAT
DOES NOT BEAT.
LUNGS THAT DRAW NO
BREATH. WHO ARE YOU TO
DEEM YOURSELF A *GOD*,
VARNAE? YOU ARE
BARELY *ALIVE*.



DO YOU WISH
TO SEE THE MIGHT
OF A *TRUE GOD*?
A POWER
EVERLASTING?

A POWER TO
BURN EVERYTHING
YOU HAVE EVER
WROUGHT TO
ASH?!

BEAR WITNESS,
DEMON!

HISSESSSSSSSS

KOKOU,
CEASE THIS
FOOLISHNESS!

AAAAEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!

BEAR WITNESS
TO A FORCE THAT
IS *ETERNAL*!

YOU HAVE
PROVEN YOUR
WORTH, BROTHER!
ALLOW THIS LAND
ITS REST!

HE IS
BEYOND REASON,
PTAH!

I MUST
BRING KOKOU
DOWN!

YOU CANNOT,
KHONSHU. FOR *YOU*
DO NOT HAVE SUCH
POWER.

BUT *I*
DO.

ESHU,
THE DEMON
MUST BE--

ENOUGH.

THUD

I HAVE SEEN
ENOUGH!

SECCRRRITCH

XXXXXXXXXX

XXXXXXXXXX

I HAVE BORNE
WITNESS TO
YOUR FIGHTING AND
YOUR FAILINGS!

JUDGMENT
IS NOW AT
HAND...



...AND YOU
HAVE BEEN FOUND
LACKING.

ATLANTEAN TEMPLE RUINS.
SUNDEATH: 31:31:54.

IF A MAN WHO KNOWS
NO FEAR IS FOOLISH,
THEN I AM WISE FAR
BEYOND MY YEARS
AND EXPERIENCE.

AS I MOVE DEEPER WITHIN
THE TEMPLE, I AM SEIZED
BY A HORROR I CANNOT
EXPLAIN. IT IS AN ANXIETY
THAT IS *PRIMORDIAL*.

BUT I AM NOT HELD CAPTIVE
BY IT. FOR I KNOW THAT
FEAR IS OFTEN THE KEY TO
ONE'S *LIBERATION*.

I WEAR THIS TERROR--*ELDRITCH*
AND *EPIGENETIC*--AS ARMOR.
DOING SO GIVES IT A USEFULNESS.
IT CAN PREPARE ME FOR
WHATEVER DANGER LIES IN WAIT
ALONG MY PATH.

AN *AUSPICIOUS*
DECISION.

HELLO,
BROTHER. HAVE
YOU COME TO
DELIVER US?



OR HAVE
YOU COME TO
SERVE AS OUR
SACRIFICE?

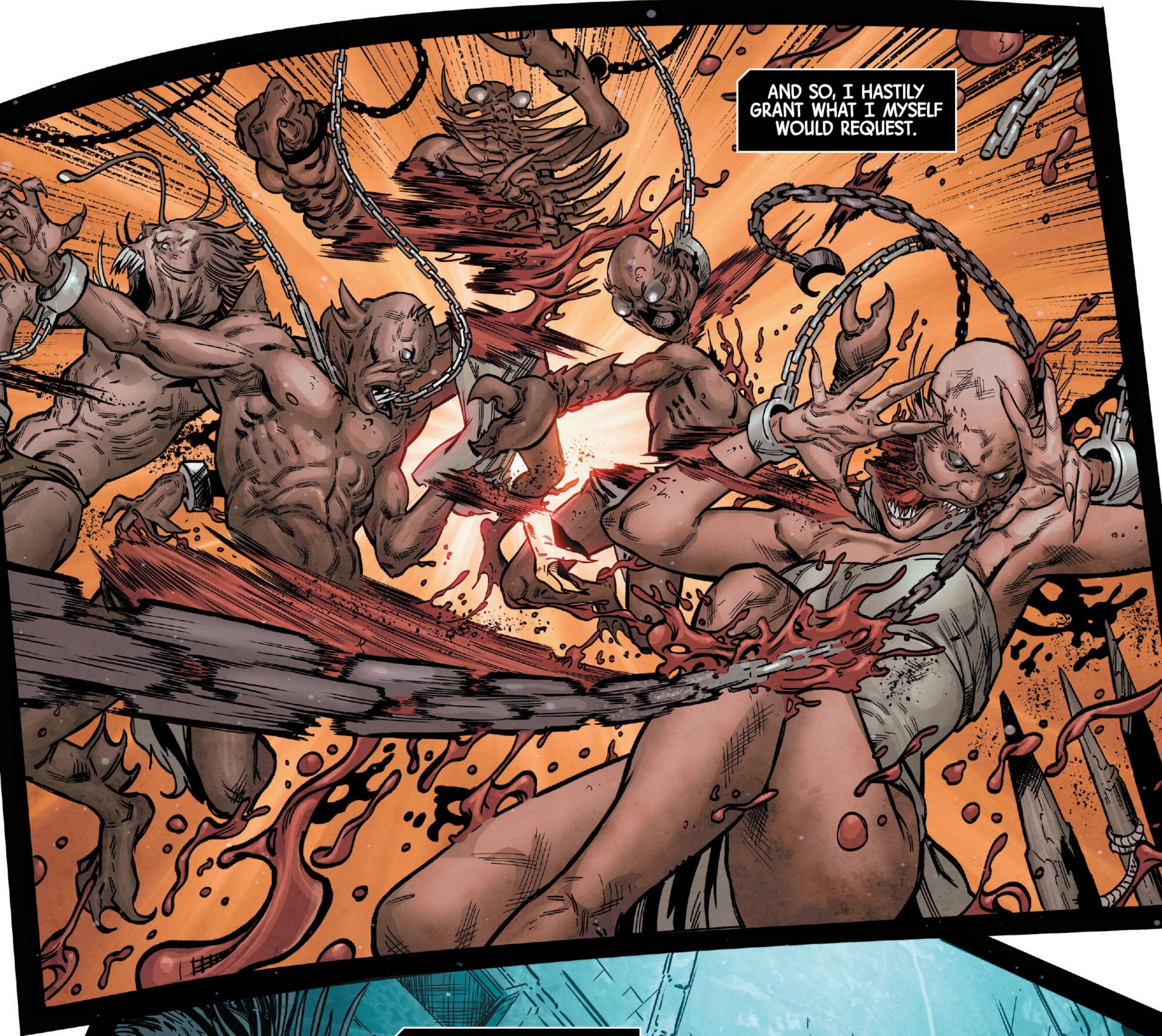
YOU ARE
FLUSH WITH BLOOD
YET OUR FEAST
GOES SO LONG
DENIED!

MAY IT
CONTINUE TO
ELUDE YOU.

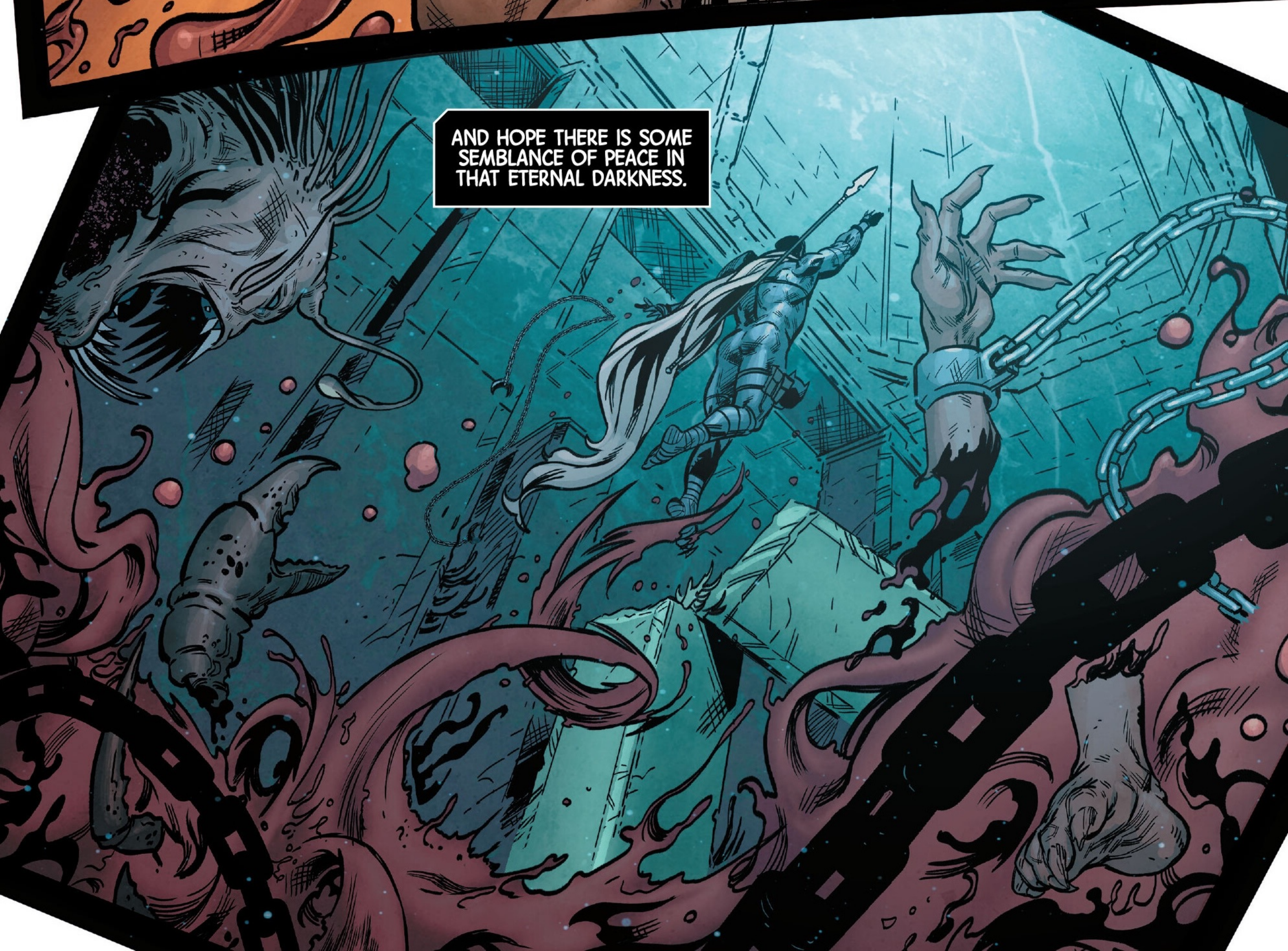
WHETHER MY NEWFOUND
STRENGTH DERIVES FROM
ANUKET'S BLOOD OR
BLADE'S VAMPIRIC CURSE,
I AM UNCERTAIN.

I AM AWARE THAT DEATH IS
THE MOST MERCIFUL GIFT
FOR VARNAE'S SULLIED
CAPTIVES, YET I CANNOT
HELP BUT BLANCH AT THE
BRUTALITY OF ITS DELIVERY.

STILL, I KNOW THAT I
WOULD DESIRE A SWIFT
DEMISE IN RETURN.



AND SO, I HASTILY
GRANT WHAT I MYSELF
WOULD REQUEST.



AND HOPE THERE IS SOME
SEMBLANCE OF PEACE IN
THAT ETERNAL DARKNESS.



LOOK AT WHAT YOU HAVE DONE, KOKOU!

EH, IT WILL SERVE AS A WARNING.

YOU WILL SERVE AS A WARNING. FOR YOU ARE NOW BOUND TO THIS LAND.

WAKANDA, EONS AGO.

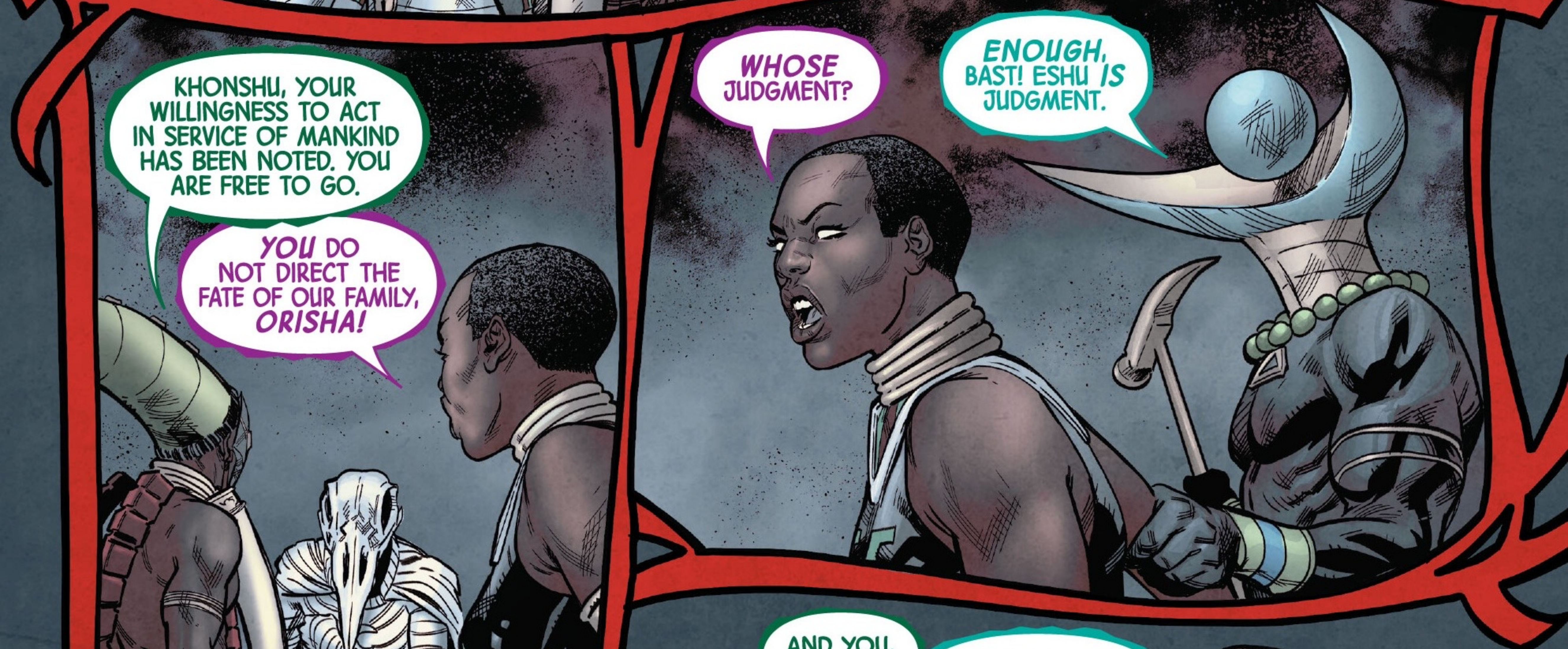


A FITTING PUNISHMENT!

AND YOU AS WELL, BAST.

ON WHOSE AUTHORITY, ESHU? YOU ARE NOT OF THE ENNEAD!

QUIET, BAST!

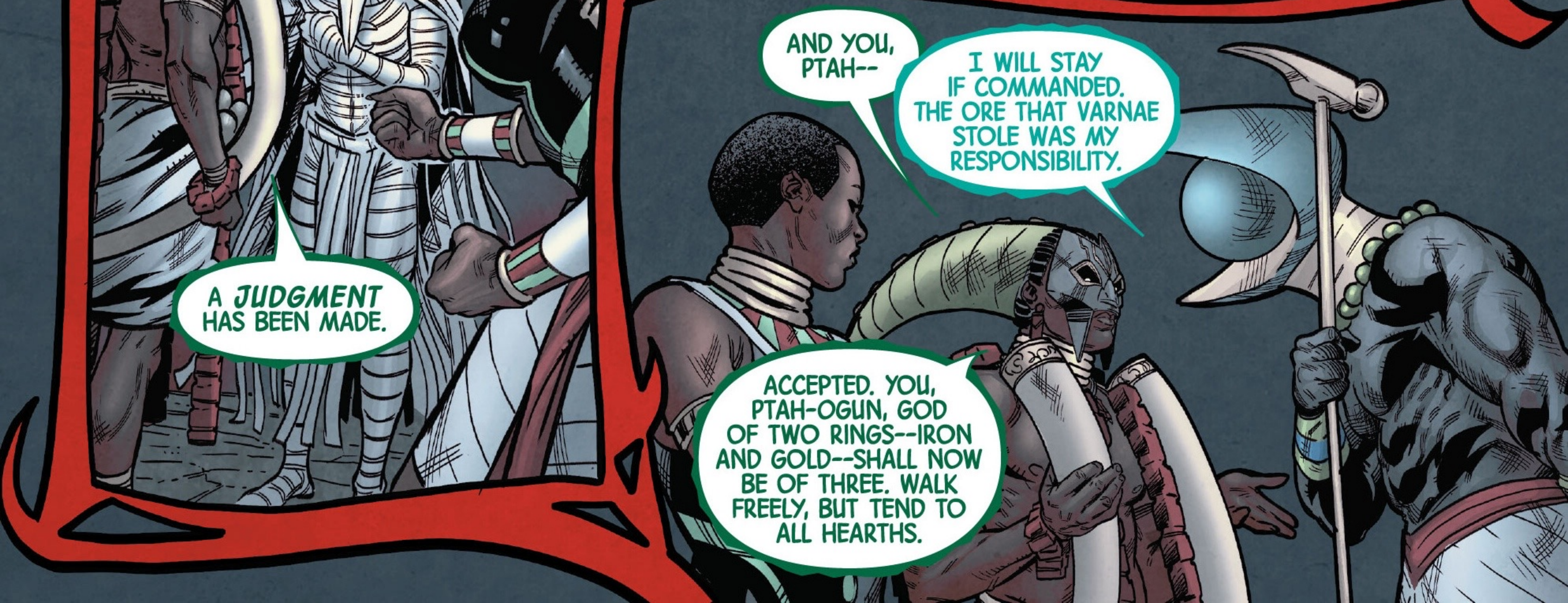


KHONSHU, YOUR WILLINGNESS TO ACT IN SERVICE OF MANKIND HAS BEEN NOTED. YOU ARE FREE TO GO.

YOU DO NOT DIRECT THE FATE OF OUR FAMILY, ORISHA!

WHOSE JUDGMENT?

ENOUGH, BAST! ESHU IS JUDGMENT.

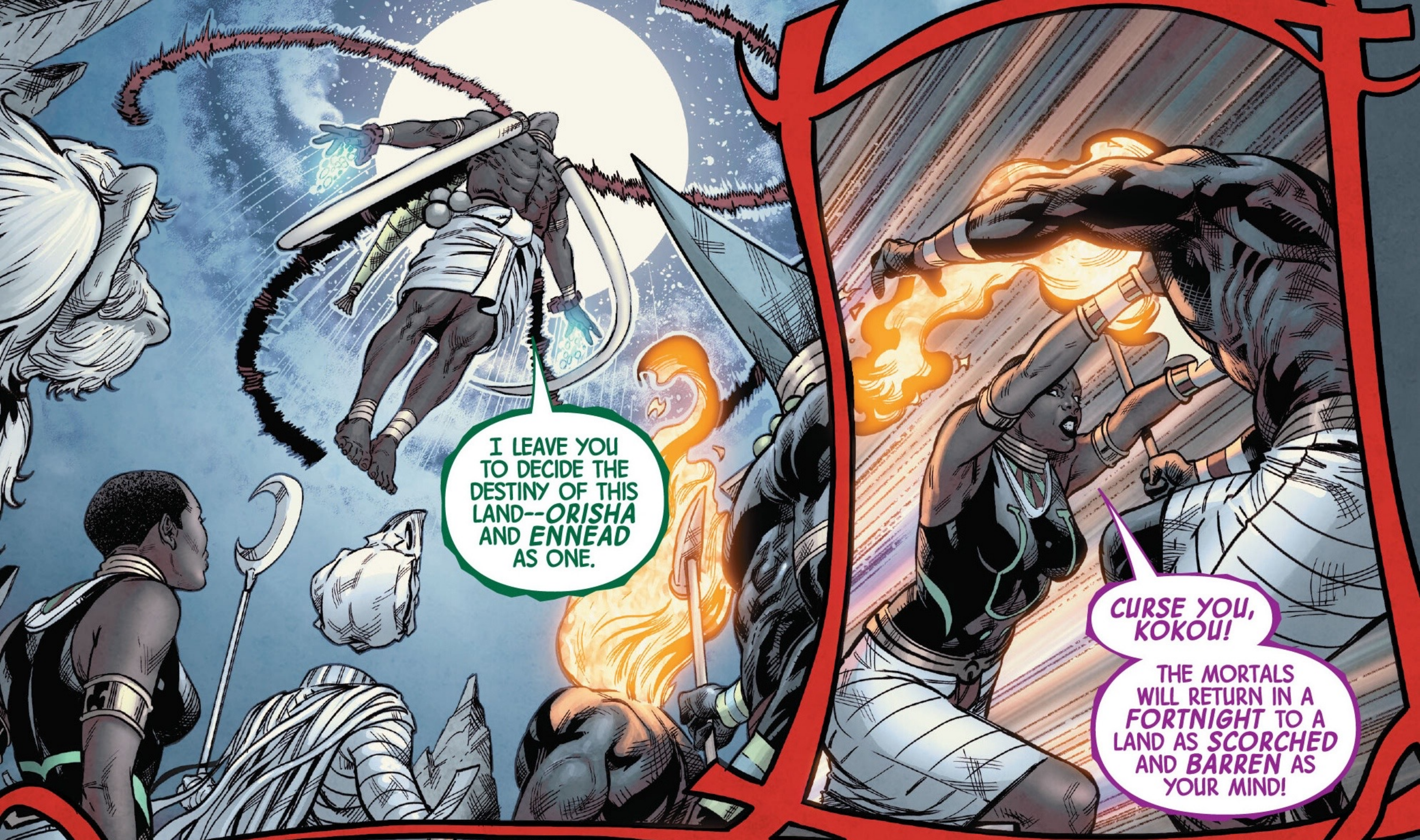


AND YOU, PTAH--

I WILL STAY IF COMMANDED. THE ORE THAT VARNAE STOLE WAS MY RESPONSIBILITY.

A JUDGMENT HAS BEEN MADE.

ACCEPTED. YOU, PTAH-OGUN, GOD OF TWO RINGS--IRON AND GOLD--SHALL NOW BE OF THREE. WALK FREELY, BUT TEND TO ALL HEARTHS.

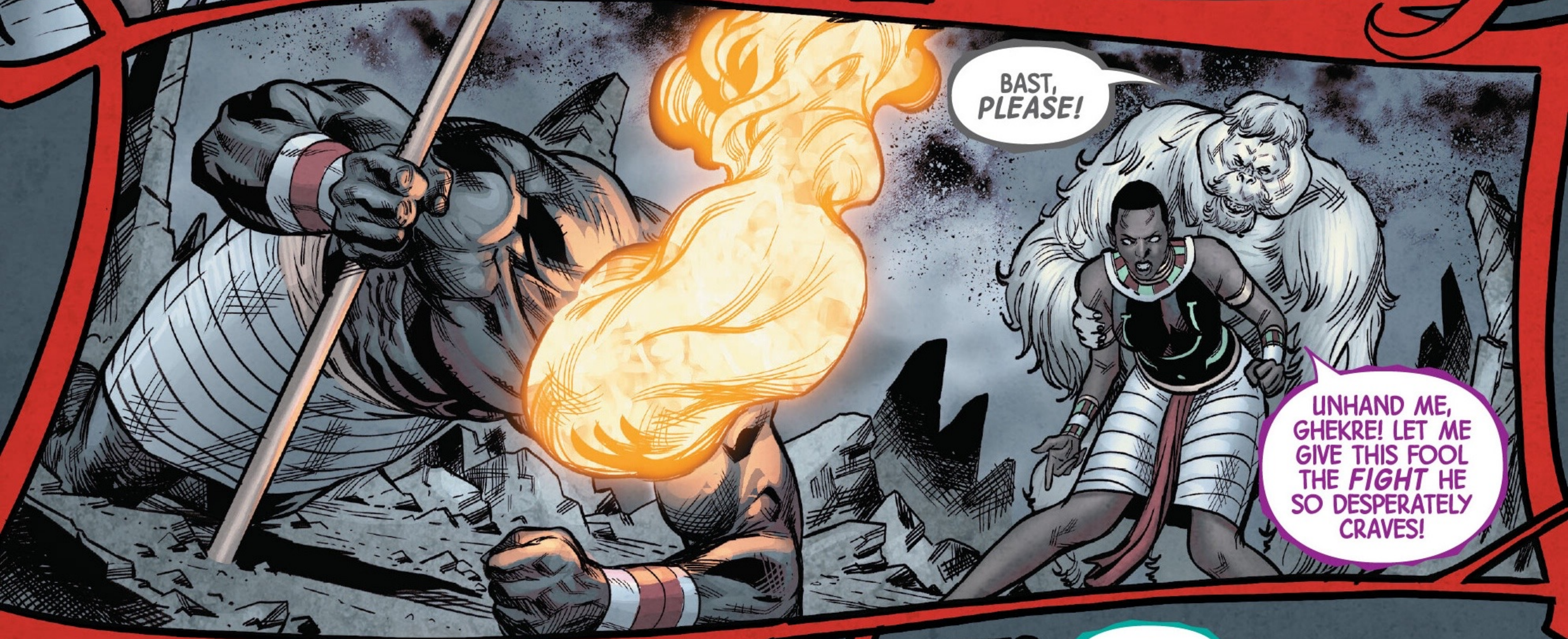


I LEAVE YOU TO DECIDE THE DESTINY OF THIS LAND--ORISHA AND ENNEAD AS ONE.



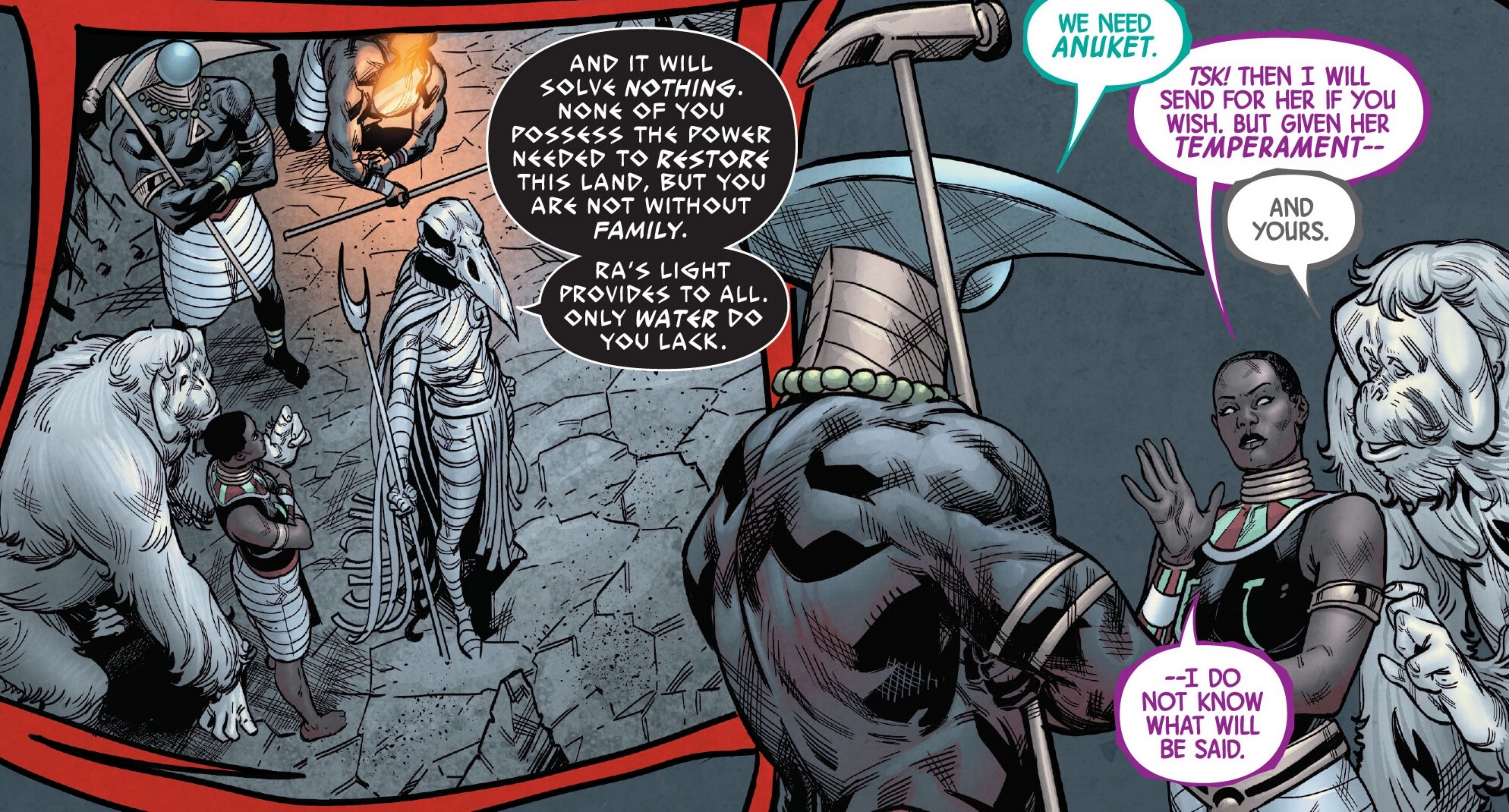
CURSE YOU, KOKOU!

THE MORTALS WILL RETURN IN A FORTNIGHT TO A LAND AS SCORCHED AND BARREN AS YOUR MIND!



BAST, PLEASE!

UNHAND ME, GHEKRE! LET ME GIVE THIS FOOL THE FIGHT HE SO DESPERATELY CRAVES!



AND IT WILL SOLVE NOTHING. NONE OF YOU POSSESS THE POWER NEEDED TO RESTORE THIS LAND, BUT YOU ARE NOT WITHOUT FAMILY.

RA'S LIGHT PROVIDES TO ALL. ONLY WATER DO YOU LACK.

WE NEED ANUKET.

TSK! THEN I WILL SEND FOR HER IF YOU WISH. BUT GIVEN HER TEMPERAMENT--

AND YOURS.

--I DO NOT KNOW WHAT WILL BE SAID.

ATLANTEAN TEMPLE RUINS.
SUNDEATH: 31:59:18.

I KNOW MANY
LANGUAGES. THOSE
OF EARTH AND
THOSE FAR BEYOND.

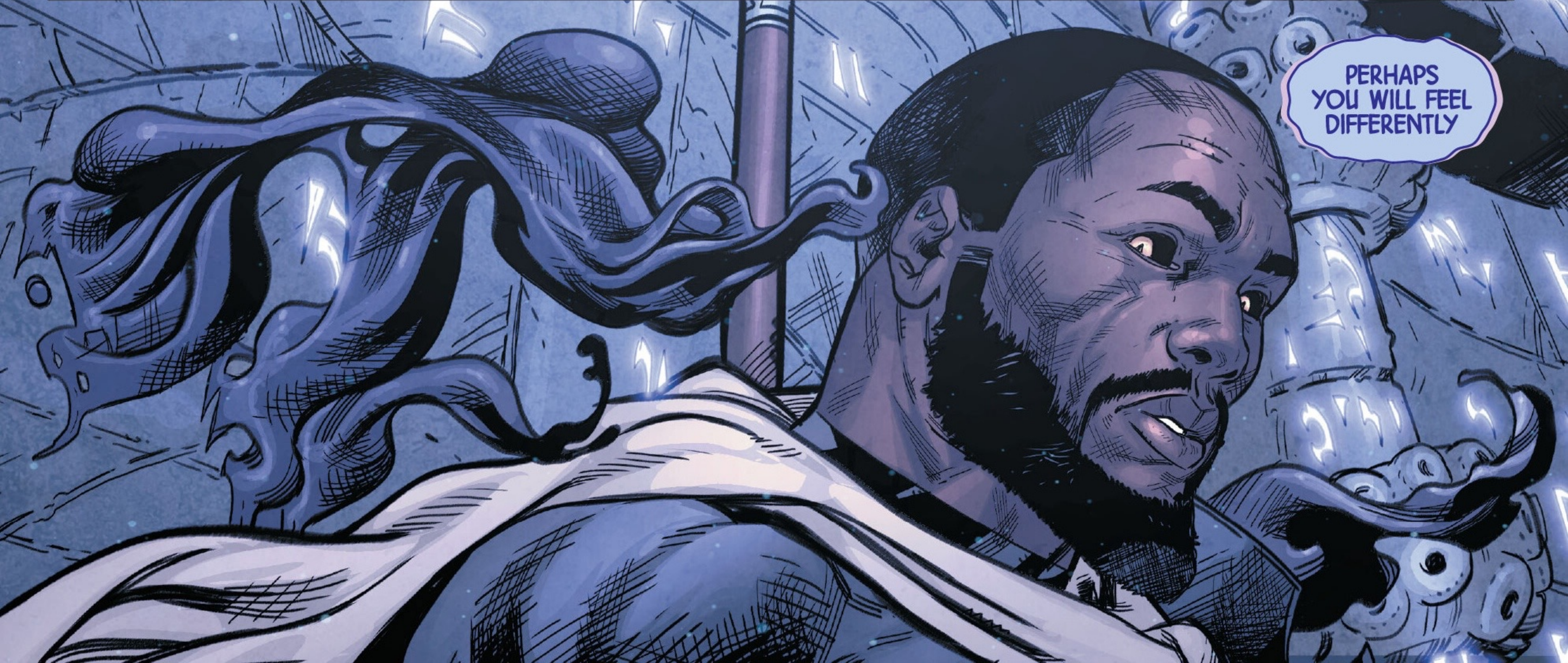
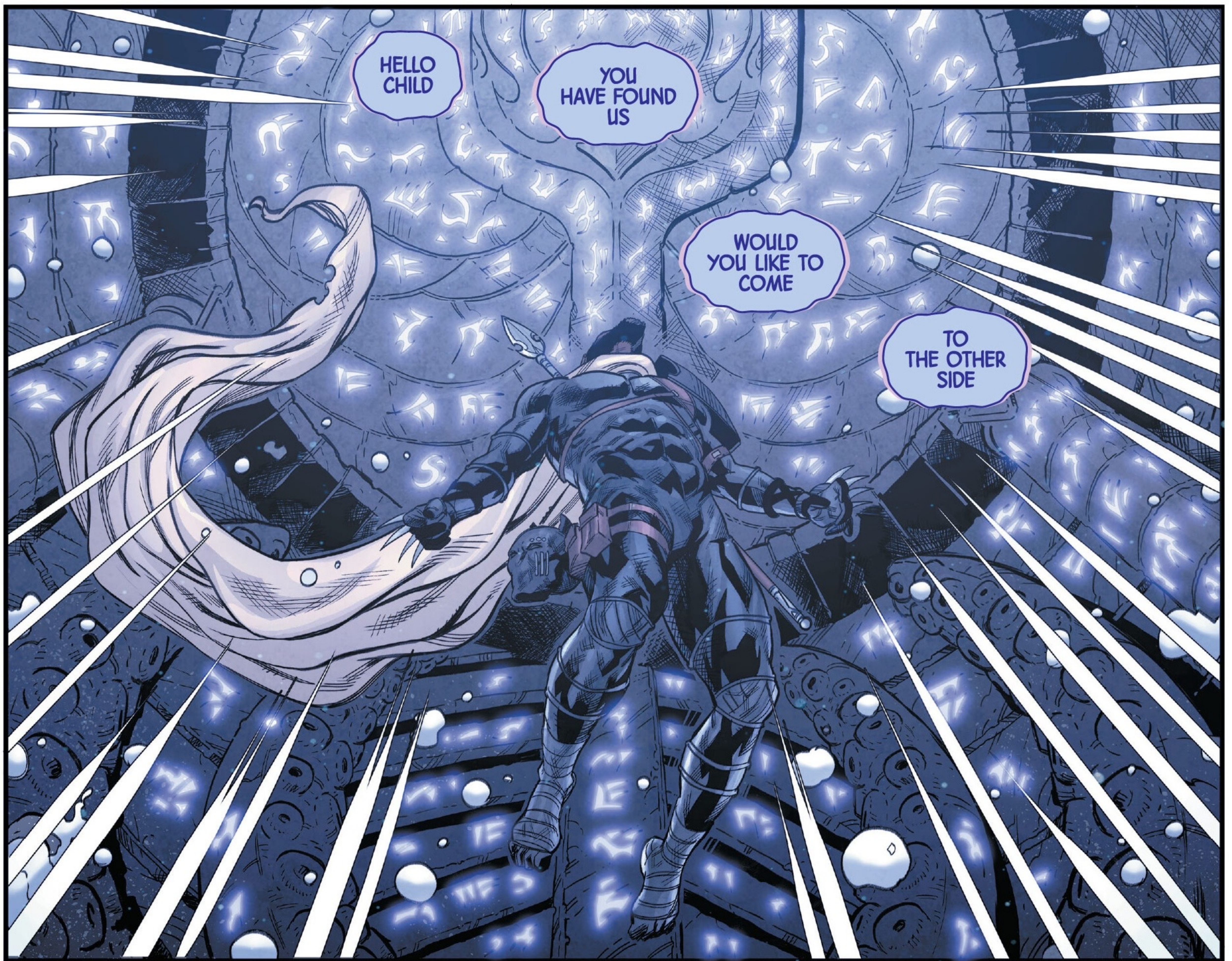
YET THESE *MARKINGS*
ARE ANCIENT--SYMBOLS
OF A TONGUE I
CANNOT *DECIPHER*.

JUDGING FROM THEIR
LOCATION, I DO
NOT BELIEVE THEY
WERE MADE BY *MAN*.

FSSSSSSSTT

OR FOR
HIM.

EH?





ONCE
YOU ARE
HERE

CITY?!

YES,
T'CHALLA.

TRIANGULATE ON
MY COORDINATES!
TELEPORT **EVERYTHING**
WITHIN THE STRUCTURE--
BUT ME--TO THE
ONASSIS RESERVOIR IN
CENTRAL PARK!

NOW!

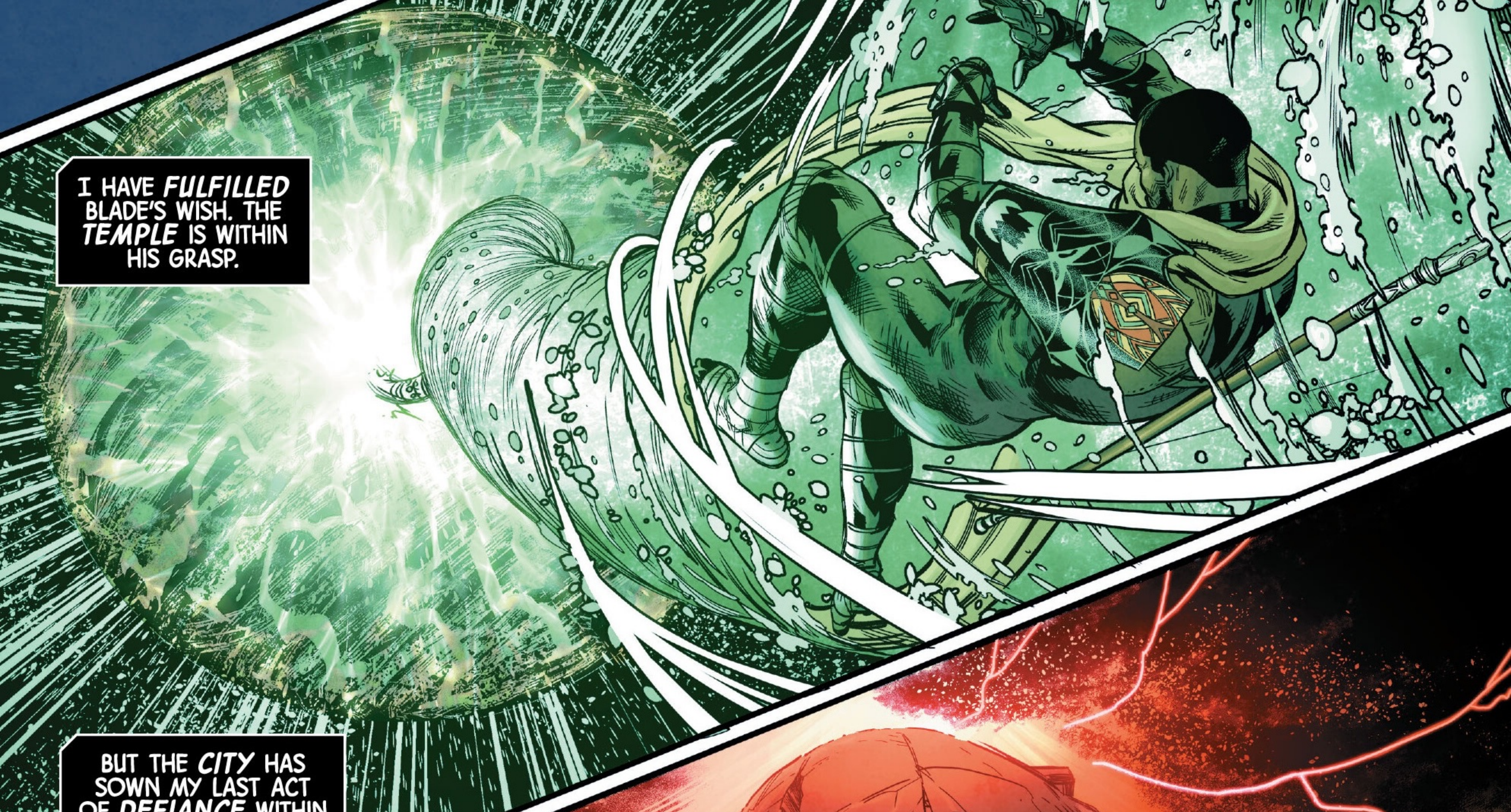
IN MY HASTE TO ACT, I
HAVE REVEALED WHOSE
WILL SERVED TO BE THE
STRONGEST--BLADE'S,
BAST'S, OR MY OWN.

POWERING
MASS-TRANSLATION
DRIVES. RETRIEVAL ENABLED--
40.786007 DEGREES
LATITUDE, -73.962029
LONGITUDE.

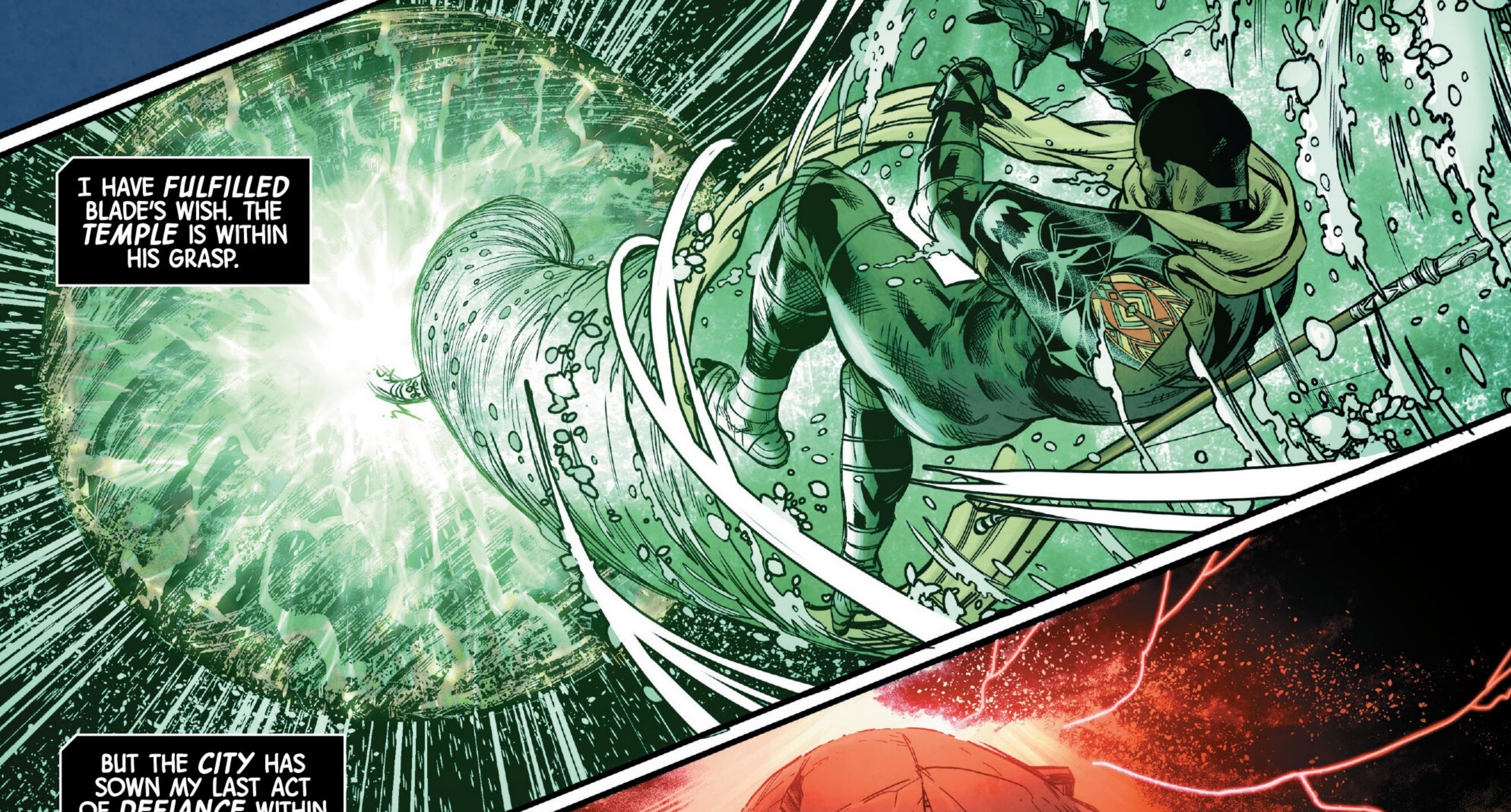
I USE THE **IMPOSSIBLE**
CITY--A SENTIENT SATELLITE
THAT ONCE PLEDGED ITSELF
TO THE AVENGERS--TO DO
THE BIDDING OF A
MONSTER.

COMMENCING
TELEPORTATION.

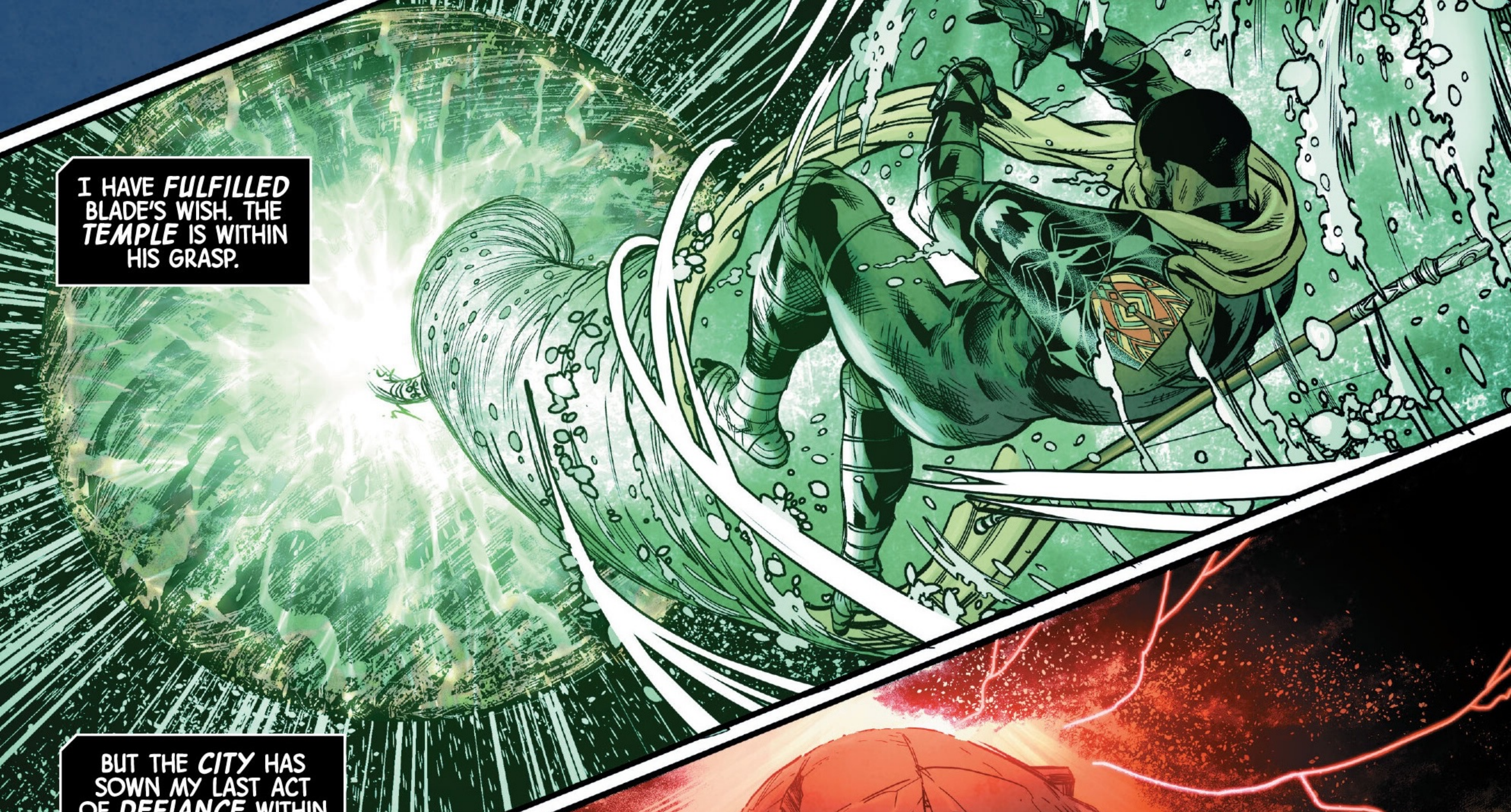
THE CITY ACQUIESCES
TO THIS PROFANE
CORRUPTION.

A dynamic comic book panel showing Blade, a man with a black mask and a green cape, falling into a swirling green energy vortex. He is holding a sword. The background is a dark, stormy sky with green lightning.

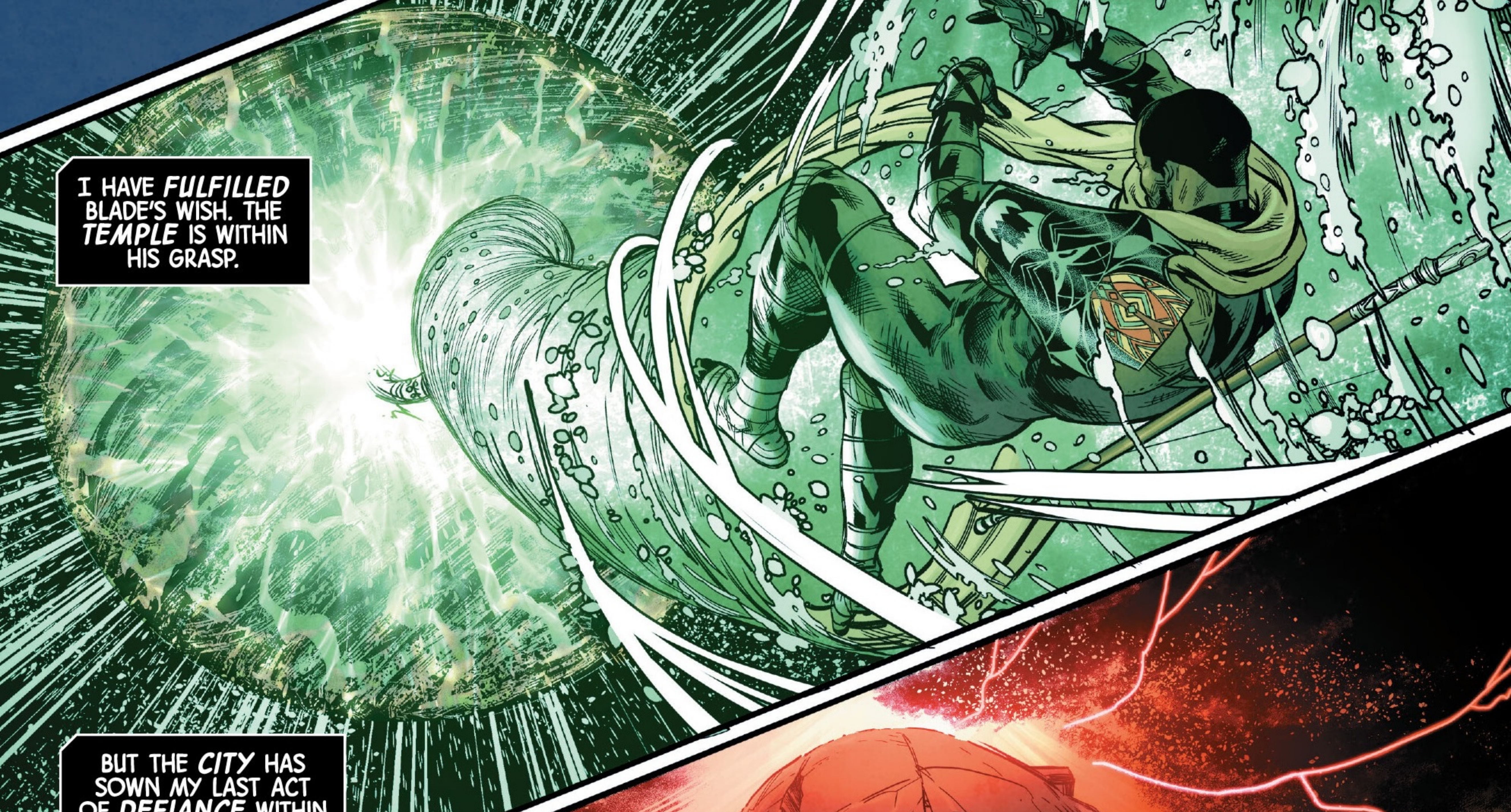
I HAVE *FULFILLED*
BLADE'S WISH. THE
TEMPLE IS WITHIN
HIS GRASP.

A dynamic comic book panel showing Blade, a man with a black mask and a green cape, falling into a swirling green energy vortex. He is holding a sword. The background is a dark, stormy sky with green lightning.

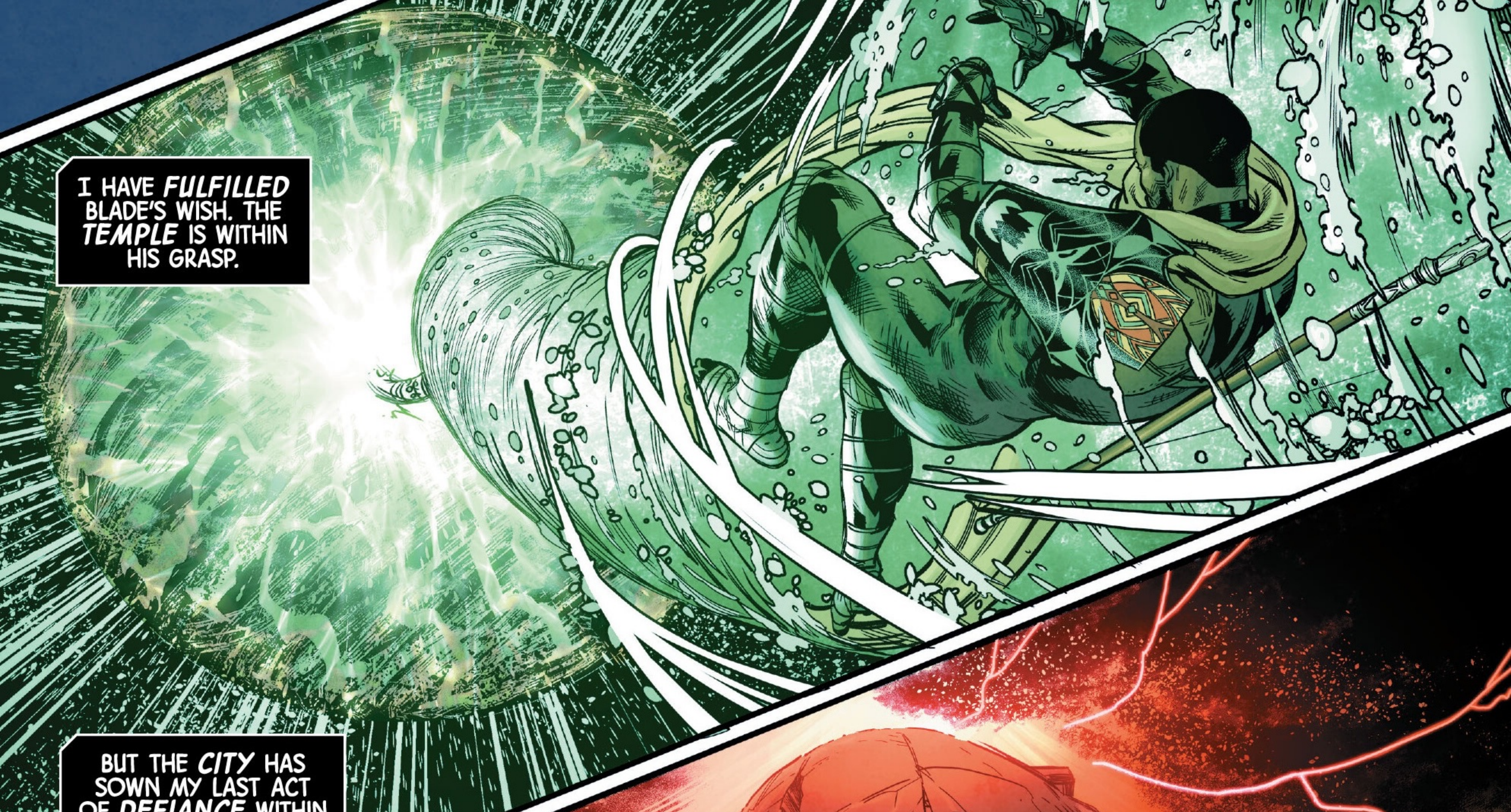
BUT THE *CITY* HAS
SOWN MY LAST ACT
OF *DEFIANCE* WITHIN
ITS *DELIVERY*.

A dynamic comic book panel showing Blade, a man with a black mask and a green cape, falling into a swirling green energy vortex. He is holding a sword. The background is a dark, stormy sky with green lightning.

I HAVE GIVEN BLADE
WHAT HE MOST
DESIRES--AS A *WEAPON*
FORMED *AGAINST* HIM.

A dynamic comic book panel showing Blade, a man with a black mask and a green cape, falling into a swirling green energy vortex. He is holding a sword. The background is a dark, stormy sky with green lightning.

MY ONLY HOPE IS THAT
WHAT HAS BEEN GRANTED
DESTROYS BLADE.

A dynamic comic book panel showing Blade, a man with a black mask and a green cape, falling into a swirling green energy vortex. He is holding a sword. The background is a dark, stormy sky with green lightning.

AS IT HAS LIKELY
DESTROYED ME.

THREE TIMES
I HAVE DONE YOUR
BIDDING, BASTI! AND
STILL RECEIVE
NO THANKS!

I AM
GRATEFUL,
ANUKET.

HMMPH! WE
WILL SEE HOW
MUCH WHEN THE
SPOILS ARE TO
BE DIVVID!

THERE WILL BE
NO SPOILS AS LONG
AS VARNAE'S TEMPLE
REMAINS! BUT I THANK
YOU FOR GIVING MY
CHAMPION THE
CHANCE TO
FIGHT AGAIN.

AM I
DEAD?

NO. OSIRIS IS NOT NEARLY AS
BEAUTIFUL. NOR AS CARELESS
WITH HEARTS.

YOU ARE
HERE IN THE
LAND WHERE YOU
BELONG, T'CHALLA.
WAKANDA.

AND THERE
IS STILL MUCH
WORK TO BE DONE!
BOTH HERE
AND AFAR.

BUT FOR
NOW, WELCOME
BACK, MY
CHAMPION.

WELCOME
HOME.

END.

NEXT:

BLOOD HUNT

4

To see whether T'Challa succeeded in his plans to foil Blade and how the heroes of the Earth will contain the Darkforce dimension, keep reading on in **BLOOD HUNT #4**, on sale now!



EMAIL US AT MHEROES@MARVEL.COM AND MARK YOUR MESSAGES "OKAY TO PRINT" FOR A CHANCE TO SEE THEM ANSWERED IN FUTURE ISSUES!

BLOOD HUNT

JULY CHECKLIST

■ BLACK PANTHER: BLOOD HUNT #3

□ BLOOD HUNTERS #3

□ DOCTOR STRANGE #17

□ DRACULA: BLOOD HUNT #3

□ MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN #22

□ X-MEN: BLOOD HUNT – PSYLOCKE #1

□ WEREWOLF BY NIGHT: BLOOD HUNT #1

□ AVENGERS #16

□ HULK: BLOOD HUNT #1

□ UNION JACK THE RIPPER: BLOOD HUNT #3

□ WOLVERINE: BLOOD HUNT #3

□ AMAZING SPIDER-MAN: BLOOD HUNT #3

□ BLOOD HUNTERS #4

□ X-MEN: BLOOD HUNT –
LAURA KINNEY THE WOLVERINE #1

□ **BLOOD HUNT #5**

□ **BLOOD HUNT: RED BAND #5**

□ FANTASTIC FOUR #22

□ MIDNIGHT SONS: BLOOD HUNT #3

□ STRANGE ACADEMY: BLOOD HUNT #3

□ VENGEANCE OF THE MOON KNIGHT #7

□ WOLVERINE: BLOOD HUNT #4